



## View All Social Standards

This page shows Social Standards and Concepts, Sources & Methods that are used in social surveys. The 'status' of a standard indicates whether it is in use. 'Preferred' indicates that it is the current and supported version; 'superseded' indicates it has been replaced by a more recent version; and 'deceased' indicates it is no longer supported or maintained.

If you would like to learn more about standards, click on [Find out More About Standards](#). If you would like to view international standards referenced by the ABS, click on [International Standards](#).

*Click the heading of a column to sort alphabetically or numerically, and click the arrow to filter your results. JavaScript must be enabled in your browser.*

Document Type	Keyword	Title	Version	Catalogue Number	Status	Year
Standard	Country of Birth	<a href="#">Country of Birth Variables</a>	1.0	1200.0.55.004	Preferred	2016
Standard	Geography	<a href="#">Australian Statistical Geography Standard: Main Structure</a>	N/A	1270.0.55.001	Preferred	2016
Standard	Language	<a href="#">Language Variables</a>	1.1	1200.0.55.005	Preferred	2016
Standard	Religious Affiliation	<a href="#">Religion Variables</a>	1.1	1200.0.55.003	Preferred	2016
Standard	Sex & Gender	<a href="#">Standard for Sex and Gender</a>	N/A	1200.0.55.012	Preferred	2016
Standard	Geography	<a href="#">Australian Statistical Geography Standard: Non ABS Structures</a>	N/A	1270.0.55.003	Preferred	2019
Standard	Income	<a href="#">Standards for Income Variables</a>	N/A	1287.0	Preferred	2015
Standard	Age	<a href="#">Age Variable</a>	1.7	1200.0.55.006	Preferred	2014
Standard	Ancestry	<a href="#">Ancestry Variable</a>	2.1	1200.0.55.009	Preferred	2014
Standard	Australian Citizenship	<a href="#">Australian Citizenship Standard</a>	1.2	1200.0.55.010	Preferred	2014
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Document Type	Keyword	Title	Version	Catalogue Number	Status	Year
Standard	Education	<a href="#">Education Variables</a>	N/A	1246.0	Preferred	2014
Standard	Family & Household	<a href="#">Family, Household and Income Unit Variables</a>	N/A	1286.0	Preferred	2014
Standard	Indigenous Status	<a href="#">Indigenous Status Standard</a>	1.5	1200.0.55.008	Preferred	2014
Standard	Labour	<a href="#">Standards for Labour Force Statistics</a>	N/A	1288.0	Preferred	2018
Standard	Year of Arrival	<a href="#">Year of Arrival in Australia Variable</a>	1.5	1200.0.55.007	Preferred	2014
Standard	Housing	<a href="#">Housing Variables</a>	N/A	1200.0.55.011	Preferred	2014
Concepts, Sources and Methods	Labour	<a href="#">Labour Statistics</a>	N/A	6102.0.55.001	Preferred	2018
Standard	Family & Household	<a href="#">Number of Children Ever Born Standard</a>	N/A	1285.0.55.001	Preferred	2012
Standard	Occupation	<a href="#">Occupation Standard</a>	1.0	1220.0.55.001	Preferred	2018
Standard	Geography	<a href="#">Australian Statistical Geography Standard: Indigenous Structure</a>	N/A	1270.0.55.002	Preferred	2016
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Document Type	Keyword	Title	Version	Catalogue Number	Status	Year
Standard	Geography	<a href="#">Australian Statistical Geography Standard: Significant Urban Areas</a>	N/A	1270.0.55.004	Preferred	2016
Standard	Geography	<a href="#">Australian Statistical Geography Standard: Remoteness Structure</a>	N/A	1270.0.55.005	Preferred	2016
Concepts, Sources and Methods	Demographic	<a href="#">Population Estimates</a>	N/A	3228.0.55.001	Preferred	2009
Standard	Disability	<a href="#">Disability Variables</a>	N/A	1200.0.55.001	Preferred	2006
Standard	Cultural Diversity	<a href="#">Standards for Statistics on Cultural and Language Diversity</a>	N/A	1289.0	Superseded	1999
Standard	Demographic	<a href="#">Demographic Variables</a>	N/A	1285.0	Superseded	1999
Standard	Language	<a href="#">Language Variables</a>	N/A	1264.0	Superseded	1997
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## View All Economic Standards

This page shows the Concepts, Sources & Methods that are used in economic surveys. The 'status' of a standard indicates whether it is in use. 'Preferred' indicates that it is the current and supported version; 'superseded' indicates it has been replaced by a more recent version; and 'deceased' indicates it is no longer supported or maintained.

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Document Type	Keyword	Acronym	Title	Catalogue Number	Status	Year
Concepts, Sources and Methods	Government Finance	GFS CSM	<a href="#">Australian System of Government Finance Statistics</a>	5514.0	Preferred	2015
Standard	Income	N/A	<a href="#">Standards for Income Variables</a>	1287.0	Preferred	2015
Concepts, Sources and Methods	International Trade	IMTS CSM	<a href="#">International Merchandise Trade, Australia</a>	5489.0	Preferred	2018
Concepts, Sources and Methods	National Accounts	ASNA CSM	<a href="#">Australian System of National Accounts</a>	5216.0	Preferred	2015
Concepts, Sources and Methods	House Price Index	RPPI CSM	<a href="#">Residential Property Price Indexes</a>	6464.0	Preferred	2018
Standard	Labour Force	N/A	<a href="#">Standards for Labour Force Statistics</a>	1288.0	Preferred	2018
Concepts, Sources and Methods	Producer Price Index	PPI and ITP CSM	<a href="#">Producer and International Trade Price Indexes</a>	6429.0	Preferred	2014
Concepts, Sources and Methods	Labour Force	N/A	<a href="#">Labour Statistics</a>	6102.0.55.001	Preferred	2018
Concepts, Sources and Methods	Labour & Wage Price	WPI CSM	<a href="#">Wage Price Index</a>	6351.0.55.001	Preferred	2012
Concepts, Sources and Methods	Balance of Payments	BOP/IIP CSM	<a href="#">Balance of Payments and International Investment Position</a>	5331.0	Preferred	2011
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Document Type	Keyword	Acronym	Title	Catalogue Number	Status	Year
Concepts, Sources and Methods	Consumer Price Index	CPI CSM	<a href="#">Consumer Price Index</a>	6461.0	Preferred	2018
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## Find out more about Standards

Click on [View all Social Standards](#) if you would like to view a full listing of social standards. Click on [View all Economic Standards](#) if you would like to view a full listing of economic standards. Click on [International Standards](#) if you would like to view international standards referenced by the ABS.

## Social Standards

Social standards are a set of guidelines. They specify how data for household surveys are collected, processed, and released. They document how the ABS:

- Defines the variable
  - associated concepts and definitions used
- Collects data on the variable
  - coding structure
  - statistical units
  - question modules
- Processes the data
  - classification
  - editing
- Presents the data

Occasionally ABS surveys use 'departures' from preferred social standards where there is strong justification. In these cases a survey area is permitted to deviate from a particular component of the standard. As a result, some survey questions may 'depart' from the guidelines specified.

## Economic Standards

The ABS does not have standards for economic surveys like those used for social surveys. The ABS uses a range of sources to provide economic standards:

- The System of National Accounts, developed by the United Nations, provides an over-arching framework outlining how to compile measures of economic activity.
- There are a range of other international and national economic standards such as Balance of Payments Manual, Australian System of Government Finance Statistics and International Merchandise Trade Australia.
- Economic surveys are required to use approved Standard Question Wording. This is a suite of approved questions to collect financial information from businesses. Adherence to Standard Question Wording is important because it promotes consistency between surveys and data coherence.

## ABS Forms Design Standards

The ABS also has standards for developing self administered surveys (paper and electronic) and computer assisted interviewing (CAI).

View the [ABS Forms Design Standards Manual](#) here.

For more information, contact the Standards and Classifications Section: [standards@abs.gov.au](mailto:standards@abs.gov.au)



## Upcoming Reviews

Reviews of standards and classifications are conducted on a regular basis to maintain the relevance of statistics. While we aim to complete reviews within the timeframes specified, the schedule is subject to revision.

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Year	Keyword	Title	Document Type	Review Details
Jul-19-Jun-20	Research	<a href="#">Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification</a>	Classification	See <a href="#">Australian Research Council</a> web site for details
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For more information, contact the Standards and Classifications Section: [standards@abs.gov.au](mailto:standards@abs.gov.au)

This page last updated 1 March 2023



## International Standards

If you would like to find out what a standard is, click on [Find out more About Standards](#). If you would like to see ABS social standards, click on [View all Social Standards](#). If you would like to see ABS economic standards, click on [View all Economic Standards](#).

Acronym	Title	Organisation
SNA	System of National Accounts 2008	<a href="#">United Nations Statistics Division</a>
SEEA	System of Environmental-Economic Accounts	<a href="#">United Nations Statistics Division</a>
N/A	Canberra Group Handbook on Household Income Statistics	<a href="#">United Nations Economic Commission for Europe</a>
BPM	Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual	<a href="#">International Monetary Fund</a>
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